

16th, 1909, and retired in April 1941. He was born in Ireland and immigrated to the United States in 1896, where he worked primarily on the Philadelphia Police Department's foot traffic unit.

James "Bud" White, Tom's son, became employed with the Pennsylvania State Police in 1937 and was there until 1942, when he was transferred to the Philadelphia Police Department. There, Bud served on the patrol, accident investigation, crime scene, and stake out units. He worked in this capacity until 1962, when he joined the Philadelphia School District Police. Bud remained until retirement in 1972.

Joseph P. White, Bud's son, began his career with the Philadelphia Police Department in 1966. He worked on the uniform patrol and juvenile aide/gang control units until 1970, when he joined the detective division. After serving in the major crimes/dignitary protection unit, Joe retired in 1988.

Ann Thomson Wisniewski, Joe's cousin, became employed with the Philadelphia Police Department in 1970, where she served as one of the first female police officers. Ann worked in the juvenile aide division, dignitary protection unit, and stakeout unit, before retiring in 1980 as a sergeant.

Kevin J. O'Rourke, Ann's cousin, started his career in the Philadelphia Police Department in 1973, and worked on the patrol and vice units. He also served in the District Attorney's Office until 1990, where he was promoted to Detective Sergeant in the special investigations and homicide unit. Kevin then went on to serve with the Pennsylvania Office of Inspector General, Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, and Pennsylvania Gaming Commission before retiring in 2008.

Stephen J. White, Kevin's cousin, became employed with the U.S. Capitol Police in 1972, where he served until 1974. The same year, he started working as a patrol officer with the Doylestown Township Police, before being promoted to Sergeant in 1975, Lieutenant in 1978, and then finally Chief of Police in 1988. He continues to serve in this capacity today.

Through multiple generations, the White family has contributed enormously to our communities in Southeastern Pennsylvania. I have the utmost gratitude for their 100 years of dedication and service. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the White family for their extraordinary accomplishments, and am extremely honored to serve as their Congressman.

AVERY HART HADDOCK MAKES HER MARK ON THE WORLD

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Justin and Sally Haddock on the birth of their daughter, Avery Hart Haddock. Avery was born on Thursday, March 19, 2009. She weighed 7 pounds and 2 ounces and measured 19.5 inches. My wife Faye joins me in wishing Justin and Sally, and Avery's grandparents Tommy and Donna Haddock, great happiness upon this new addition to their family.

As the father of three, I know the joy and pride that Justin and Sally feel at this special

time. Children remind us of the incredible miracle of life, and they keep us young-at-heart. Every day they show us a new way to view the world. I know the Haddocks look forward to the changes and challenges that their new daughter will bring to their lives while taking pleasure in the many rewards they are sure to receive as they watch Avery grow.

I welcome young Avery into the world and wish Justin and Sally all the best.

HONORING DON GWARTNEY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Don Gwartney upon being named as a "Distinguished Life Member" by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896. Mr. Gwartney was honored on Saturday, January 31, 2009.

Don Gwartney was born in Clinton, Oklahoma during the Great Depression. As a young man his family moved to Chowchilla, California where he attended Chowchilla High School. He graduated from Chowchilla High School in 1956 at the age of seventeen. Upon graduation he wanted to join the United States Navy to "see the world," but at seventeen he had to convince his mother to sign the enlistment form. She agreed, and Mr. Gwartney completed Navy Boot Camp at San Diego and was sent to fire fighting school. He was ordered to Washington and aboard the USS Princeton, an aircraft carrier with a crew of 3,448 officers and men. The ship had completed a conversion to conduct anti-submarine operations in the eastern Pacific and was sent to its home port in Long Beach, California. In July 1957 the USS Princeton completed a seven month mission, making port in Hawaii, Yokasuka, Sasebo, Okinawa, Tokyo, Hong Kong, and the Philippines. In January 1958, they stopped briefly in Singapore and were sent to Ceylon on a humanitarian mission to assist flood victims. The ship returned from a successful mission in February 1958.

With increasing tension between Communist China and the Nationalist Chinese, the United States government began positioning more ships in the region and in July 1959 the USS Princeton sailed to join the fleet of four other battle groups off of the coast of Taiwan. The ship was responsible for launching planes to search for Chinese submarines in the area and crew members were working a stressful six hours on, six hours off schedule throughout the crisis. After several weeks, Communist China suddenly stopped all military operations and the USS Princeton traveled to Subic Bay in the Philippines. From there they sailed to the Bering Sea in pursuit of a Soviet nuclear submarine, which they obtained intelligence on.

In March 1959, the Princeton underwent a new configuration and was designed to serve as an amphibious assault ship for Marines. In September 1959, Mr. Gwartney was released from active duty, but was called back just fifteen months later and was assigned to Naval Air Station Alameda. He was released in October of the same year. Mr. Gwartney has been awarded the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, National De-

fense Service Medal, he received 823 Badge of Honor Medals, a commendation from the Republic of China and a letter of appreciation from the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office.

Upon retiring from the Navy, Mr. Gwartney attended college classes; he worked at Yosemite National Park and at Valley Feed and Fuel in Chowchilla. He was employed in the maintenance department at Chowchilla Union High School in March 1970, and was soon after promoted to Supervisor of Custodians, a position he held until retiring in December 2000. He served as a volunteer fire fighter for five years. He is a member of the Cathedral of Faith, where he was a Royal Ranger Leader for five years and a Sunday school teacher for ten years. He is a life member of the Chowchilla Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896. He is married to Betty Edwards and they have made their home in Chowchilla for forty-three years.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Don Gwartney upon being named as a "Distinguished Life Member" by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Gwartney many years of continued success.

THE EDWARD M. KENNEDY SERVE AMERICA ACT

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of The Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, which will renew our nation's commitment to promoting service and volunteerism.

Public service is something my family knows a little bit about. Nearly five decades ago, my uncle, President John F. Kennedy, challenged the nation's youth to serve their country. When he said that famous line, "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country" he sent a message on the necessity for everyone to take an active role in our society.

It is my hope that with the passage of the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, Congress and President Obama will create a new era of public service that goes beyond any one generation. The bill we are considering today expands opportunities for volunteerism to include disadvantaged youth, seniors and people with disabilities. It is my belief that if we are going to regain a sense of community and shared responsibility in this country, we must encourage national service among all people.

There's an old saying that reads, "The most sacred thing one person can give another, outside of their love, is their labor." That goes to the core of why supporting programs that promote volunteerism and community service is so important. Specifically, today's bill will renew our focus on inclusion by investing \$20 million in programs that encourage participation of people with disabilities.

The Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act will create new programs like the Clean Energy Corps, to focus on environmental conservation. This new program will work in conjunction with our economy as we forge a new direction in energy. This legislation creates a

separate Veteran's Corps designed to help veterans meet the needs of their fellow servicemen and women; such as providing programs that help provide education, mentoring, and job training to fellow veterans.

More than 4,400 seniors in Rhode Island contribute their time and talents in one of three Senior Corps programs which will be expanded within the Serve America Act. Foster Grandparents in Rhode Island serve more than 3,200 young people who have special needs. I am pleased that this bill authorizes \$115 million to encourage these efforts not only in my state of Rhode Island, but nationwide. In addition, The Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act will allow seniors to earn a \$1,000 education award for 350 hours of service, that may be passed on to their children, foster child or grandchildren.

I am pleased that this bill provides new incentives for middle and high school students to volunteer in their communities, and will allow them to earn up to \$1,000 in education awards to be used for college. The Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act will also establish Youth Engagement Zones, a service-learning program to engage low-income high school students and out-of-school youth in volunteer efforts.

In my home state of Rhode Island, programs like YouthBuild Providence will benefit from this important legislation through funding for the recruitment, training and professional development of coordinators for the program. The Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act will also increase the number of AmeriCorps volunteers and increase the education reward to \$5,350 for 2010, to match the maximum Pell Grant scholarship award.

Currently, more than 14,000 people of all ages and backgrounds are helping to meet local needs, strengthen communities, and increase civic engagement through 53 national service projects across Rhode Island. This year, the Corporation for National and Community Service will commit more than \$7,300,000 to support Rhode Island communities through national service initiatives.

The benefits that this legislation would bring to our struggling communities, across this country, and in my home state of Rhode Island, are endless.

Like its namesake, this bill dedicates itself toward the promotion of solidarity, selflessness and courage. I will be proud to vote in favor of this bill, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

HONORING THE VOLUNTEER EFFORTS OF CHEYNE VALENTINE AND PAMELA FAWNS WITH THE PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD

HON. DENNY REHBERG

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Mr. REHBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate and honor two young students from my district who have achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in their communities. Cheyne Valentine of Bigfork, Montana and Pamela Fawns of Corvallis, Montana, have been named as Montana's top youth volunteers by The 2009 Pru-

dential Spirit of Community Awards program. This is an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each state and the District of Columbia.

Mr. Valentine was nominated by the American Red Cross of Montana in Great Falls, and Pamela was nominated by the Ravalli County 4-H in Hamilton. As State Honorees, each will receive \$1,000, an engraved silver medallion and an all-expenses-paid trip in early May to Washington, D.C., where they will join honorees from each of the other states and District of Columbia for several days of national recognition events. Ten of them will be named America's top youth volunteers for 2009 at that time.

As a member of the American Red Cross of Montana and a senior at Bigfork High School, Cheyne helped spearhead a community campaign that collected \$4,400 to purchase two heart defibrillators for his school and provide CPR training for coaches, after his best friend suffered a heart attack during football practice and later died. When his friend, Jeff, collapsed on the field, Cheyne discovered that school personnel had neither the training nor equipment to deal with such an emergency. "I am certain that if the coach had been trained in CPR and there had been a defibrillator on the field, the outcome for my friend would have been different," he said. Cheyne began seeking donations to pay for two automatic external defibrillators and training for his school's coaches. He and his mother posted 500 fliers, spoke to hundreds of community members and wrote columns and letters to editors of local newspapers. The defibrillators purchased with the donations from the fundraising drive were presented to Bigfork High School in December, 2008. Meanwhile, Cheyne also has begun working to persuade state legislators to pass a law requiring AEDs at all school athletic events and training for all coaches in Montana. "I have started the ball rolling in this community," said Cheyne, "and it will continue until all schools in Montana make these safety changes."

Ms. Fawns, a member of the Ravalli County 4-H and a seventh grader at Valley Oak Academy High School in Corvallis, creates floral arrangements to promote and raise funds for 4-H and other school projects. "I have always had a joy in creating art with flowers because flower arrangements lighten up your mood and can make people feel happy when they are ill or sad," said Pamela, who comes from a long line of horticulturists. To gain more experience in floral design, Pamela persuaded a local florist to let her work as a volunteer intern. After learning first-hand about selecting, processing and arranging flowers, she started to think about ways she could use her skills to raise money for community projects. Through flower sales, Pamela was able to generate funds for a community meal project and new sports equipment for her school. She also realized how effective flowers are in motivating volunteers, so she began making arrangements for adult volunteers in her community. "I recognized that flowers, unlike other gifts, could really have a brightening effect on people's lives," she said.

In light of numerous statistics indicating Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it is vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contributions these young citizens have made. People of all ages need to think

more about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our own communities. Young volunteers like Cheyne and Pamela are inspiring examples to all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

The program that brought these young volunteers to our attention—The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards—was created by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are critically important and highly valued, and to inspire other young people to follow their example. Over the past 14 years, the program has become the nation's largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service and has honored more than 80,000 young volunteers at the local, state and national level.

Mr. Valentine and Ms. Fawns should be extremely proud to have been singled out from the thousands of dedicated volunteers who participated in this year's program. I heartily applaud both of them for their initiative in seeking to make their communities better places to live. Their actions show that young Americans can—and do—play important roles in our communities.

HONORING JEANNETTE VARELA

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jeannette Varela, a successful entrepreneur with a commitment to her community.

Born in Barranquilla, Colombia, Jeannette was the second of eight children. At the age of eighteen, Jeannette left her home country with just thirty dollars and a limited grasp of English. She came to the United States seeking a new life in the "land of opportunity." Jeannette found work in various jobs to make ends meet, eventually working in the heavy equipment industry in Miami, Florida.

She has a heart for helping others, has been recognized for her philanthropic endeavors and is a respected community leader.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, I ask you to join me in honoring Jeannette Varela.

HOMELESS VETERANS RE-INTEGRATION PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1171, "Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program Reauthorization Act of 2009." I want to thank my colleague Congressman JOHN BOOZMAN of Arkansas for introducing this legislation.

I firmly believe that we should celebrate our veterans after every conflict, and I remain committed, as a Member of Congress, to both